

## The Florida House of Representatives

## For Immediate Release:

Thursday, March 10, 2011

## **Contact:**

Lyndsey Cruley, (850) 487-8148

## Florida-Style Immigration Reform Passes House Judiciary Committee

**Tallahassee, Fla.** – The proposed committee bill (PCB) relating to Florida-style Immigration reform passed the House Judiciary Committee today.

"There are currently more than 1 million unemployed Floridians. It is essential that we ensure that the jobs that are available, or become available, go to Floridians who are legally eligible to work here," said Representative Snyder (R-Stuart), chairman of the House Judiciary Committee and sponsor of the bill. "The fair and reasonable E-verify measures established in this legislation will protect our state's workforce by sending the message that Florida is open for business for those who are legally eligible to work here."

"This is a nation of laws and it is essential that we uphold and enforce those laws," said Representative Snyder. "I believe that if an individual is the subject of a criminal investigation, it is reasonable to allow law enforcement officers to check the status of those individuals if they have reasonable suspicion that the person is here illegally, and this legislation does just that."

"In crafting this legislation, we worked hard to build a consensus by reaching out to all of the stakeholders – from the Hispanic Caucus, to the business community, to law enforcement to members of the public," said Representative Snyder. "I think the favorable passage of this bill today indicates that it is a sound solution to the issue of illegal immigration in our state."

For more information regarding this bills, please visit the <u>Florida House of Representatives</u> <u>Judiciary Committee webpage</u>.